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Water in Claremont wells could be hazardous ---MOH

BY AUDREY GREEN
CLAREMONT — Gastroenteritis, vomiting, and diarrhea are just a few of the symptoms caused by drinking water with high levels of bacteria said Durham Regional Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Jean Gray.

"Certainly it can make you sick," she said. "It depends on the dose."

According to Dr. Gray, bacterial substances like coliform, which has recently been detected in many Claremont wells, can affect young children and elderly

people more than the average adult.

"Some (coliform) causes illness and some don't," explained Dr. Gray.

She said it's possible to receive skin infections from water containing coliform if an open wound like a cut is exposed to it.

Dr. Gray stated the illnesses which can be transmitted by coliform in the water do not "to my knowledge" have long term effects.

She said the acceptable health level for coliform in water is zero. "Ideally there should be none."

However, the acceptable

levels for nitrates, like road salt, in the water are 10 parts per million.

Currently, the Ministry of the Environment and Simcoe Consulting Engineers in Pickering, are conducting tests in Claremont to see if there are any nitrates present in the water. Dr. Gray said nitrates "can be very severe."

She explained if drinking water has more than .10 parts per million of nitrate children six months and under shouldn't have any of the contaminated water at all. She said the nitrate can be absorbed into the blood stream and eventually cause Methemoglobin. Methemoglobin is when nitrates mix with the blood's hemoglobin which causes a lack of oxygen and turns the blood blue.

If nitrates in the water are less than 10 parts per million then "it's quite safe for anyone to use."

Dr. Gray said people using water which is contaminated with such matters should use other sources of water until the contaminated water is purified.

Linda Carder, Durham Board of Education trustee,

said she hasn't been informed by the board, Simcoe Engineering, or the Durham Public Health Department on whether or not the water at Claremont Public School is polluted.

"If the well at the school is bad we will bring in tanker water or have a drilled well," said Mrs. Carder. "Our septic tank is a hell of a mess...it's a problem and it has been for years."

Mrs. Carder said there is a possibility the school water could be contaminated because of the problems they've experienced with the school's septic system. She said four years ago a new septic tank was installed, but it's still a problem because it must be pumped weekly.

"The kids were playing in the sewage," she said.

As a Claremont homeowner, Mrs. Carder said she thought the situation on the wells has been handled unprofessionally.

"I've not been notified...that the water was tested or it wasn't any good...I'm distressed 70 per cent (of the wells) are unfit," she stated. "Seventy per cent should be considered a disaster."

Claremont's Councillor

Wayne Arthurs stated the solution for the problem shouldn't be "too far away." He said Simcoe Engineering has predicted the end of their study and the reports prepared by approximately the end of September.

"Action is definitely necessary," said Mr. Arthurs. "I believe it is and I believe the residents are concerned."

According to Mr. Arthurs, there are "only" two roads of action to deal with the problem.

He said one solution is the residents can have their individual wells upgraded and the province would pay approximately 75 per cent of the cost and the homeowner would be responsible for the remaining 25 per cent.

The second solution he explained is to install a community water supply of which the province would pay approximately 15 per cent of the total costs and the region would be responsible for the remaining costs.

Mr. Arthurs said a minimum of one public meeting will be held with residents in the fall, but there will probably be more.



Stouffville area equestrienne tops difficult class

A successful horse show was held Saturday at No Frills Farm, Claremont with net proceeds donated to the Canadian Autistic Society. The competition was keen with sixty entries participating. One of several trophy winners was

15-year-old Lea Von Zuben of R.R. 3, Stouffville. She topped the Hunter Over Fences class. Lea trains at Springwood Stables, Uxbridge.

—Jim Thomas

At Claremont's No Frills Farm

Horse show raises funds to help Autistic Society

CLAREMONT — The heat didn't curtail the activities of competitors and visitors who helped to raise more than \$500 for the Autistic Children's Society at last Saturday's charity horse show at No Frills Farm in Claremont.

Show organizer and arranger, Susan Harrington, said the money donated to the society will help in research and building a new residence for autistic children. She said approximately 400 to 450 people attended the event and there were 60 entries for the horse competition.

High point awards

The High Point Champion of the Day Award went to Bonnie Tendam, Oshawa, and her horse Clipper Trinity. Other high point awards included: The Western Horse Award and Youth Award — Lee Ann Guest, from Keene, Ontario, and her horse Cameo; and the English Award — Ian Degruchy, Whitby, and his horse Kaygo.

First place winners

Other awards for the day were: Open Line, Jack Benny (30 years and over), and Obstacle Course (trail) — Bonnie Tendam, Oshawa, and horse Clipper Trinity; Youth Show-

manship (18 years and under) — Sandra Tendam, Oshawa, and Clipper Trinity.

Open Western Pleasure — Carolyn Hepworth, Claremont, and horse Tootles; Open Western Equitation and Command — Kate Romancko, Pickering, and horse Josie; English Pleasure and English Equitation — Leslie Martin, Oshawa, and Eternal Dream.

Steady Hands, Bareback Equitation, Barrel Race, and Flag Race — Lee Ann Guest, Keene, Ontario, and her horse Cameo; Walk Trot (Novice) — Chris Halett, Ajax, and horse Jets Rhythm; Lead Line (six years and under) — Amy Latchford, Hampton, and Princess Daf; Hunter Hack and Pleasure Championship — Joanne Fairbrass, Scarborough, and horse Canadian Playgirl; Working Hunter Over Fences — Lea Vonzuben, Uxbridge, and Another Step; Special Pleasure Class — Bev Patterson, Scarborough, and Shiloh; and the Working Hunter Stake — Julie Rayner, Castleton, Ontario, and her horse Tish.

Ms. Harrington said she had a "fun" time organizing the day and she may consider doing it again next year. "I'd like to raise more than \$1,000."

Computer age attends Claremont Public School

BY AUDREY GREEN

CLAREMONT — Modern technology will soon be added to Claremont Public School's curriculum.

In September, for the first time, students at Claremont will be exposed to more than just the average text book. They'll be using computers.

Durham Board of Education Trustee, Linda Carder, said the board has set aside approximately \$131,000 for 1983 to purchase a mobile computer unit comprised of computers and printers.

The mobile unit will be used in Durham's six district areas, which total eleven schools said Mrs. Carder. Only schools with one or more instructors trained in computers will receive the unit for approximately three weeks at a time and currently Claremont has a couple of teachers qualified to do the job.

At the elementary level children will learn the basics of computers like keyboard operation and they will have the chance to just familiarize themselves with the machines.

"The computer is a great tool, but teaching still needs text books," she said.

"The emphasis right now is at the secondary schools...with introduction at the elementary schools," said Mrs. Carder.

Looking into the future, she said, students will have some type of computer knowledge or experience by the time they finish Grade 12.

Dog owners given break

UXBRIDGE — Uxbridge Township dog owners who presently have more than three dogs can breathe a sigh of relief.

"If you had the dogs before the new by-law, then you can keep them," said Animal Control Officer Ann Barrett.

The Uxbridge Town Council recently passed the new Animal Control and Kennel By-Law which restricts residents from owning more

than three licenced dogs per dwelling unit.

"I don't people need more than three dogs," said Ms. Barrett. She explained some people, who own many dogs, end up not taking care of them properly and therefore shouldn't have them. "Ten to one they get into trouble."

"Laws are guidelines," she said. However, for the majority of people "it's not a problem."

Museum holds Pioneer Horse Day

GREENWOOD — Sunday (Aug. 14) is Pioneer Horse Day at the Pickering Museum.

Activities begin at 10 a.m.

and continue to 5 p.m. Many events are planned including harness-making, horse-shoeing and pony rides for the children.

Use garden hose

Family battles house fire

UXBRIDGE — A family living at Lot 10 Conc. 2, Uxbridge, kept a house fire, on August 1, under control with a garden hose until the fire department arrived said Durham Regional Police at 26 Division.

Police said the fire started in a downstairs utility room and the damage to the basement was from the fire and the upstairs damage was by smoke. Damage estimates were unavailable, but the house, owned

by Issac Cohen of 16 Brantstone Road in Toronto, was valued at \$100,000. There were no injuries.

Car destroyed
A totally destroyed vehicle which was stolen from the Toronto area was found by police on August 6. Police said the vehicle, owned by Lana Richardson of 3434 Eglinton Avenue East, Scarborough, was found abandoned on Conc. 4, Uxbridge. Police said the accident, which damaged the vehicle, occurred at an earlier time and it was just left abandoned in Uxbridge Township.

Police chase
On August 7 at 3 p.m. police said a car chase took place with an erratic driver.

Charged with dangerous driving and failing to stop for police was Daniel Yeomanson, 22 Third Avenue, Uxbridge.

Major injuries
Police said a single vehicle accident occurred on August 8 causing major injuries to the driver. Michael Turner, Lot 16 Conc. 1, Uxbridge, was driving his Honda MTC three wheel vehicle when he lost control.

Nine new tees

Golf club given upgraded look

UXBRIDGE — An extensive improvement program to refurbish the Uxbridge Golf Course during the next few years was announced recently by John Lavis, manager of the golf course.

The upcoming developments include nine additional tees, which will increase the length of the course, new traps and bunkers, and a program for tree-planting.

Some of the improvements like a 1,200 square foot patio/terrace are almost finished. The patio will eventually provide out-

door seating for approximately 75 people.

In May, the golf course had a large pond installed along the first three fairways, the greens were enlarged, and two new tees were constructed.

A fairway watering system will be part of the final phase for the 1983/4 season.

According to Mr. Lavis, the improvements will help to bring the golf course to championship standards, but it will also remain accessible to the average local golfer.



Relaxing on a sunny day

It was a beautiful afternoon, Saturday, for any outside activity. At Claremont, the Bowling Club hosted an open tournament with entries coming from Markham, Stouffville, Richmond Hill, Oshawa and Claremont.

—Jim Thomas